

State Health Care Priorities (2007- 2011)

Actions taken regarding the recommendations of the Governor's Select Committee on Health Care (2007-2009):

1. Cover Idaho's Children

- ✓ Due to the downturn in the economy, children are being enrolled at a higher rate than normal. It has not been necessary to do extensive outreach except in specific areas with particularly low enrollment.

2. Expand insurance access and affordability for adults

- ✓ The Department of Insurance developed a public/private partnership with health insurance carriers to create a webpage called *Healthy Idaho* where consumers can compare and apply for individual plans offered by carriers.
- ✓ The Department of Insurance continues to explore policy direction regarding state-run health insurance exchanges as a mechanism for increased insurance accessibility and affordability.

3. Expand residency opportunities

- ✓ The Governor's Office and Blue Cross worked together to provide funding to the residency program to secure another opening for a primary care doctor.
- ✓ The residency programs have received grants to assist with expansion.

4. Address the health professions workforce shortage

- ✓ The Legislature passed legislation that expanded opportunities to contribute to the Idaho Rural Physicians Incentive Program that provides loan repayment for physicians that locate in underserved rural areas of the state.
- ✓ The Governor's Idaho Health Professions Education Council was established by Executive Order in February of 2009 to assess the status of the state's medical workforce and make recommendations to the Governor and the legislature.

5. Develop primary care medical homes for all Idahoans

- ✓ The Idaho Primary Care Association (the membership organization for Idaho's community health centers) received a four year grant to implement the patient centered medical home model in Idaho safety net clinics.
- ✓ The Idaho Medical Home Collaborative to Implement a Patient-Centered Medical Home Model of Care was established by Executive Order in September of 2010.
- ✓ The Collaborative is developing a multi-payer pilot to test the efficacy of the Patient-Centered Medical Home.

6. Continue to improve Idaho's behavioral health system

- ✓ The Governor's Behavioral Health Transformation Workgroup was established by Executive Order in February of 2009 to develop a plan for a coordinated state behavioral health infrastructure.
- ✓ A completed proposal was submitted to the Governor in October of 2010.
- ✓ The Behavioral Health Interagency Cooperative was established in January of 2011 to facilitate changes recommended by the Transformation Workgroup.

7. Encourage prevention and personal responsibility for health

- ✓ The Department of Health and Welfare consistently provides health education for the State.
- ✓ The Division of Health, in the Dept. of Health and Welfare, secures grants for community partners to develop prevention and wellness programs.

8. Address undergraduate medical education

- ✓ The State has not been able to expand the number of seats in the cooperative medical education program due to insufficient funding options.

Additional Actions:

➤ **Expand the use of Electronic Medical Records technology statewide.**

- ✓ Established the Idaho Health Data Exchange, which is charged with developing a plan for health information exchange across the State.
- ✓ The Exchange is a work product of the Health Quality Planning Commission.
- ✓ The Commission was created in 2006 by the Legislature.
- ✓ Members are appointed by the Governor.
- ✓ Currently, several hospitals and medical practices are participating in this process.

➤ **The Governor's Health Policy Implementation Committee**

- ✓ Established the Governor's Health Policy Implementation Committee in December of 2009 that worked on furthering the top five priorities of the Governor's Select Committee on Health Care.
 - Covering Idaho's children
 - Expanding residency opportunities
 - Developing Primary Care Medical Homes
 - Improving health quality through expansion of the medical records exchange
 - Insurance access and affordability

➤ **The Governor's Idaho Health Care Council**

- ✓ Replacing all previous health care executive orders, the Idaho Health Care Council was established in December of 2010 to carry forward and add to previously completed work, organizing the various health care stakeholders into one system.
- ✓ This council is tasked with moving State health policy priorities forward in an effort to address **health care delivery system improvements, continued development of health information technology and health insurance affordability and accessibility.**
- ✓ The full body of the Council met on June 29th and 30th of 2011 for a coordination workshop. The three workgroups that make up the Council continue to meet on an individual basis.